Familiarize yourself with all this information.
*Have this information with you at all times.

Visual journalists operate as trustees of the public. Our primary role is to report visually on the significant events and varied viewpoints in our common world. Our primary goal is the faithful and comprehensive depiction of the subject at hand. As visual journalists, we have the responsibility to document society and to preserve its history through images.

Photographic and video images can reveal great truths, expose wrongdoing and neglect, inspire hope and understanding and connect people around the globe through the language of visual understanding. Photographs can also cause great harm if they are callously intrusive or are manipulated.

This code is intended to promote the highest quality in all forms of visual journalism and to strengthen public confidence in the profession. It is also meant to serve as an educational tool both for those who practice and for those who appreciate photojournalism. To that end, The NYS SkillsUSA and National Press Photographers Association sets forth the following.

**CODE OF ETHICS**

Visual journalists and those who manage visual news productions are accountable for upholding the following standards in their daily work:

1. Be accurate and comprehensive in the representation of subjects.

2. Resist being manipulated by staged photo opportunities.

3. Be complete and provide context when photographing or recording subjects. Avoid stereotyping individuals and groups. Recognize and work to avoid presenting one's own biases in the work.

4. Treat all subjects with respect and dignity. Give special consideration to vulnerable subjects and compassion to victims of crime or tragedy. Intrude on private moments of grief only when the public has an overriding and justifiable need to see.

5. While photographing subjects do not intentionally contribute to, alter, or seek to alter or influence events.

6. Editing should maintain the integrity of the photographic images' content and context. Do not manipulate images or add or alter sound in any way that can mislead viewers or misrepresent subjects.

7. Do not intentionally sabotage the efforts of other journalists.
Ideally, visual journalists should:

1. Strive by example and influence to maintain the spirit and high standards expressed in this code. When confronted with situations in which the proper action is not clear, seek the counsel of those who exhibit the highest standards of the profession. Visual journalists should continuously study their craft and the ethics that guide it.

**MAIN DUTIES**

1. Be properly uniformed.
2. Report all violations of the SkillsUSA Code of Conduct to their Chairperson.
3. At all times and for all duties, Photojournalist will act in a friendly and helpful manner.
4. Present a positive image at ALL TIMES when on duty or off during their entire stay at the conference.
5. Be familiar with events, times and locations.
6. Ensure that no talking occurs between contestants who are competing and Photojournalist.
   *(if this occurs, The contestant may be disqualified and report this immediately to the contest Chairperson)*

**NYS SkillsUSA “CODE OF CONDUCT”**

**Damages:** Any damage to any property will be charged to the individual and it will be their responsibility to reimburse SkillsUSA for any damages as a result of the student’s misconduct.

**Alcohol and Drugs:** No alcoholic beverages, drugs or narcotics, in any form, shall be possessed or used at any time, under any circumstances. Violation of this area will result in referral to the respective law enforcement agency and may also result in administrative action at the school. Those students requiring prescribed medications must make the advisors aware of this at the time of the student meeting prior to departing.

**Smoking:** This is a smoke free conference. There will be no smoking!

**Radios:** No radios, “boxes”, MP3, Tape or CD units are allowed in contest areas or during meetings and/or ceremonies.

**Cell/Phones/Black Berries:** There is no use of cellphones/blackberries during competition or pre/post contest meetings or during the general assembly. All phones and other devices will be turned off or placed in Silent Mode and will not be visible.

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **Be properly uniformed.** **NYS Official attire for men:** Official red blazer, NYS Black Jacket, the older red national windbreaker or older red sweater and the Black Carhartt Jacket from Nationals. Black dress slacks; white dress shirt; plain black tie with no pattern or a SkillsUSA black tie. Black socks and black shoes. **NYS Official attire for women:** Official red blazer, NYS Black Jacket, the older red national windbreaker or older red sweater and the Black Carhartt Jacket from Nationals. Black dress slacks or skirt with businesslike white, collarless blouse or white blouse with small, plain collar that may not extend on to the lapels of the blazer; black sheer or skin-tone hose and black shoes, that are not backless or open toe. **Note:** photojournalist must wear their **NYS official attire to the contest orientation meeting**.

2. Photojournalist will wear their ID badges at ALL times. These badges are needed for early admittance to contest areas on competition day. If an individual is not displaying a badge, they will not be allowed into the contest area and will be reported to their advisor for not reporting to their assignment.

3. Photojournalist will not use their phone while on duty for **any** purpose other than contacting their Advisor or checking the time. No texting, calling or playing games while on assignment.

**Photojournalist May NOT:**

• Compete in any SkillsUSA Championships contest
• Serve as a model or assistant for any SkillsUSA Championships contestant
• Serve as a judge for any SkillsUSA Championships contest
• Campaign or run for a state office
• Participate in delegate sessions as a voting delegate
• Come to the conference just as a helper for their school.

**Photojournalist MUST:**
• Be approved by his/her lead advisor
• Be current SkillsUSA members
• Agree to abide by the state Code of Conduct Agreement
• Agree to the terms of the SkillsUSA Personal Liability and Medical Release Form guidelines as stated on the back of the NCC Form 1
• Agree to the Photography and Sound Release guidelines as stated on the back of the NCC Form 1

**WEDNESDAY, April 22 * 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm**

Report to the command center located in the Center of Progress Building. *Bring this packet, a small notepad and pen. Photojournalist buttons will be presented and the assignments reviewed. Upon completion of the sign in and reviewing duties and responsibilities, Photojournalist will report to their assigned areas.* After the orientation meetings the students will meet their respective schools and return to their hotel. Ensure you discuss where to meet with your advisor. Study all information provided. Prepare for the next day.

**THURSDAY, April 23 * 7:00am to 4:00pm**

6:15am – Ensure with your Advisor, that you are first to eat breakfast, bring a change of clothes for the dinner.
7:00am – Students all arrive and report to the contest area that they are assigned to.
12:00 & 1:00pm Photojournalist will eat lunch during competitor's lunch time.
4:00pm - All Photojournalist should be done and should then report to their advisors for the Dinner and Entertainment event at the Horticulture Building.

**FRIDAY, April 24**

No duties. Attend the awards ceremony with you school.

*The above times are being used as a guide and are subject to change by your Chairperson.*

And most important, enjoy yourselves and have a great time !!